

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.     A portable media device, comprising:  
2           a memory configured to store digital content;  
3           a wireless transceiver configured to wirelessly transmit and receive digital  
4 content;  
5           an output configured to render digital content; and  
6           a controller coupled to the memory, the wireless transceiver and the output,  
7 the controller being configured to control wireless transmission and rendering of  
8 digital content based upon meta-data associated with the digital content.

1           2.     The device of claim 1, wherein the controller is configured to control  
2 playback of digital content stored in the memory based upon a user license  
3 confirmation.

1           3.     The device of claim 2, wherein the controller is configured to confirm a  
2 user license for a digital content based upon meta-data associated with the digital  
3 content.

1           4.     The device of claim 3, wherein the controller is configured to confirm a  
2 user license based upon a comparison of a user identifier embedded in the meta-data  
3 with a user identifier stored in the memory.

1           5.     The device of claim 2, wherein the controller is configured to limit  
2 playback of the digital content in response to a failed user license confirmation.

1           6.     The device of claim 5, wherein the controller is configured to enable  
2 playback of only a sample of the digital content in response to a failed user license  
3 confirmation.

1           7.     The device of claim 1, wherein the controller is configured to direct  
2 received digital content selectively to unrestricted memory storage or to restricted  
3 memory storage based upon a user license confirmation.

1           8.     The device of claim 7, wherein the controller is configured to direct  
2 licensed digital content to unrestricted memory storage and to direct unlicensed  
3 digital content to restricted memory storage.

1           9.     The device of claim 7, wherein the controller is configured to restrict  
2 storage of unlicensed digital works to a predetermined quantity.

1           10.    The device of claim 7, wherein the controller is configured to enable  
2 wireless transmission of digital content stored in unrestricted memory and to prevent  
3 wireless transmission of digital content stored in restricted memory.

1           11.    The device of claim 1, wherein the controller is configured to decrypt  
2 encrypted digital content with a cryptographic key stored in the memory.

1           12.    A digital content distribution system, comprising:  
2           two or more portable media devices each comprising a memory for storing  
3 digital content and a transceiver for wirelessly transmitting digital content to and  
4 wirelessly receiving digital content from another portable media device; and  
5           a license manager configured to associate digital content with meta-data for  
6 controlling wireless transmission and rendering of digital content from one portable  
7 media device to another.

1           13.    The system of claim 12, wherein the licensed distributor is configured  
2 to embed a user identifier in meta-data associated with purchased digital content.

1           14.    The system of claim 12, wherein the license manager is configured to  
2 allocate incentives based upon meta-data associated with purchased digital content.

1           15.    The system of claim 12, wherein the license manager is configured to  
2 allocate an incentive to a digital content distributor in response to a purchase of the  
3 corresponding digital content by a user of a portable media device storing meta-data  
4 with an appropriate embedded distributor identifier.

